

REMARKS

Claims 1-11, 26-29, 32-35, 39-42, 46-49, and 53-56 are pending in the current application, with claims 30, 31, 36-38, 43-45, 50-52, and 57 being cancelled by this Amendment. Claims 1-11 and 26-57 currently stand rejected, and claims 1, 26-29, 35, 42, 49, and 56 have been amended. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections to claims 1-11, 26-29, 32-35, 39-42, 46-49, and 53-56 are respectfully requested in light of the preceding amendments and following remarks.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 1

Claims 1 and 26-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 1 for failure to comply with the written description requirement. Particularly, the Examiner alleges that the term “an infinite period of time until user input is received” finds no written description support in the specification as filed. Applicants have amended claims 1 and 26-29 to clarify that “the still picture [is] configured to be **displayed until user input is received** if the duration information indicates the infinite period of time.” This functionality – continuous display before user input - finds written description support in at least the example embodiment discussed at paragraph [0042] of the specification as filed on January 20, 2004. Withdrawal of the rejection to claims 1 and 26-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 1 is respectfully requested.

Claims Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-4, 6-11, 26-31, 33-35, 37, 38, 40-42, 44, 45, 47-49, 51, 52, and 54-56 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over US Pat Pub 2002/0164152 to Kato et al. (“Kato”) in view of US Pat Pub 2002/0130896 to Spence et al. (“Spence”). Claims 5, 32, 39, 46, and 53 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Kato in view of Spence and in further view of US Pat Pub 2005/0163463 to Schick et al. (“Schick”). Claims 36, 43, 50, and 57 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Kato in view of Spence and in further view of US Pat 6,122,436 to Okada et al. (“Okada”) and US Pat 6,856,756 to Mochizuki et al. (“Mochizuki”). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for the reasons detailed below.

With regard to claims 1 and 26-29, Applicants respectfully submit that each of these claims has been amended to recite “the still picture and associated data [are] configured to be reproduced synchronously” whereas “the audio data [is] configured to be reproduced **asynchronously and independently from the still picture unit.**” The Examiner applies the clip in the AV stream file of Kato to meet the recited “still picture” and the audio stream in the EP_Map to meet the recited “audio data.” In Kato, the **audio streams in the EP_Map are synchronized with and reproduced based upon particular clips in the AV stream**, by corresponding clip packet IDs to audio play entries. See Kato, FIG. 67; ¶¶ [0347]-[0350]. Thus, Kato lacks any data structure functionality by which audio data may be reproduced

asynchronously and independently from still pictures as recited in claims 1 and 26-29 as amended.

Applicants further submit that claims 1 and 26-29 have been amended to clarify that the playitem and sub-playitem indicate “an in-point and an out-point” of a first and second clip stream file, respectively, for reproducing presentation (playitem) and audio data (sub-playitem), respectively. The Examiner applies the in_time and out_time of Kato to disclose the recited “duration information.” Applicants respectfully submit that if the in_time and out_time of Kato are interpreted to disclose the recited “in-point” and “out-point,” Kato lacks any other feature that corresponds to the separately-recited “duration information indicating whether to display the at least one still picture for one of a finite and an infinite period of time.” Thus, Kato lacks at least one of the duration information or in-point and out-points as recited in claims 1 and 26-29 as amended.

None of Spence, Schick, Mochizuki, or Okada cure, or are applied for curing, the deficiencies of Kato discussed above. Because Kato, alone or in combination with Spence, Okada, Schick, and Mochizuki, fails to teach or suggest each and every feature of claims 1 and 26-29, these references cannot anticipate or render obvious claims 1 and 26-29. Claims 2-4, 6-11, 30, 31, 33-35, 37, 38, 40-42, 44, 45, 47-49, 51, 52, and 54-56 are allowable at least for depending from an allowable base claim. Withdrawal of the rejections to claims 1-4, 6-11, 26-31, 33-35, 37, 38, 40-42, 44, 45, 47-49, 51, 52, and 54-56 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the objections and rejections and allowance of each of claims 1-11, 26-29, 32-35, 39-42, 46-49, and 53-56 in connection with the present application are earnestly solicited.

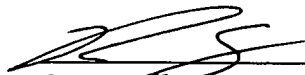
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Ryan Alley at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNES, DICKY, & PIERCE, P.L.C.

By



Ryan Alley, Reg. No. 60,977
Gary D. Yacura, Reg. No. 35,416
P.O. Box 8910
Reston, Virginia 20195
(703) 668-8000

GDY/REA: tlt